



MICHIGAN
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
P.O. Box 30014
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7514

Minutes of the Joint Committee Meeting
of
the House Standing Committee on Oversight and Ethics
and
the House Standing Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs

Thursday, March 17, 2016 10:30 a.m. Room 326, House Office Building

The House Standing Committee on Oversight and Ethics was called to order by Representative Ed McBroom, Chair.

The Clerk called the roll; members present were **Representatives McBroom, Howrylak, Graves, Theis, Robinson, and Pagan. (6/6)**
The Clerk announced that a quorum was present.

The Oversight Chair turned the gavel over to the Military and Veterans Affairs Chair.

The House Standing Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs was called to order by Representative Tom Barrett, Chair.

The Clerk read the letters from Speaker Kevin Cotter appointing Representative Mary Whiteford to replace Representative Ben Glardon, and appointing Representative David LaGrand to replace Representative Robert Kosowski on the House Military and Veterans Affairs Committee.

The Clerk called the roll; members present were **Representatives Barrett, Hughes, Hooker, Outman, Glenn, Whiteford, Rutledge, Talabi, and LeGrand. (9/9)**
The Clerk announced that a quorum was present.

Representative Hooker moved to adopt the minutes from the Thursday, March 10 meeting. There being no objection the motion prevailed by unanimous consent of the members present; the minutes were adopted.

The Military Chair turned the gavel over to the Presiding Chair, Representative McBroom.

The Presiding Chair laid before the committees the Office of the Auditor General Performance Audit.

Performance Audit of the
Grand Rapids Home for Veterans
Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency
Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
February 2016
Report Number: 511-0170-15

Theresa A. Robinson, United Veterans Council of Kent County, testified on the audit.

Greg McNeil, representing the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans Dorm Unit Vets, testified on the audit. Questions followed.

Ed Helwig, Master Sergeant Retired, testified on the audit.

Jerry Luckstead, representing Veterans for Justice, testified on the audit. A copy of his written testimony is attached.

Phillip Stebbins, Jr. testified on the audit. Questions followed A copy of his written testimony is attached.

Harriet Sturim, Northeastern American Auxiliary Post 459 Chaplain, testified on the audit. Questions followed. A copy of her written testimony is attached.

Nick Ciaramitaro, Legislative Director for AFSCME Council 25, testified on the audit. Questions followed.

Mark Sutton, Public Affairs Director for the American Legion Department of Michigan, testified on the audit. Questions followed.

The Oversight Chair turned the gavel over to the Military and Veterans Affairs Chari.

There being no other business before the committee; the Chair declared the Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs adjourned, the time being 11:49 a.m.

The Military Chair turned the gavel over to the Oversight Chair.

At 11:49 a.m., the Oversight Chair went at ease at the call of the Chair, so the Military and Veterans Affairs Committee members could leave the room.

At 11:52 a.m., the Chair reconvened the committee.

The Chair read the proposed recommendations to the Auditor General Performance Audit on the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. Discussion followed and further suggested recommendations were made.

The Chair briefed the committee that he would be reconvening the committee when committees get leave to meet after session to vote on the amended recommendations.

At 12:00 Noon, the committee went at ease at the call of the Chair.

At 4:32 p.m., the Chair reconvened the committee.

The Chair read the proposed amended recommendations, discussion followed.

The Chair offered the committee's recommendations to the Auditor General's Performance Report on the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans.

Representative Graves moved to adopt the House Oversight and Ethics Committee Auditor General Report Recommendations on the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Representatives McBroom, Howrylak, Graves, Theis, Robinson, and Pagan, (6/6)

Nays: None. (0/6)

Representative Theis moved to refer the Performance Audit of the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans to the Committee on Appropriations and Committee on Military and Veteran Affairs.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Representatives McBroom, Howrylak, Graves, Theis, Robinson, and Pagan, (6/6)

Nays: None. (0/6)

The committee membership signed the letter to the report.

There being no other business before the committee; **Representative Howrylak moved to adjourn the meeting.**

The motion prevailed, the time being 4:46 p.m.

The Chair declared the Committee on Oversight and Ethics adjourned.

Ed McBroom, Chair
House Standing Committee on Oversight and Ethics

Joy Brewer, Committee Clerk

Date approved by the committee